

New ROK clinic opens for locals



Photo by Pfc. Debralee P. Crankshaw

Local nationals line up, waiting for the opening of the Bagram Korean clinic.

Pfc. Debralee P. Crankshaw
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan – The Bagram Korean clinic, a clinic exclusively for local nationals, relocated Wednesday with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The ceremony comprised of a speech by Lt. Gen. Dan McNeill, Combined Joint Task Force-180 commander and Col. Kookhan Kim, Korean clinic commander. Two U.S. soldiers also received certificates and a gift from the Korean government, and four Korean soldiers received certificates of appreciation and a coin from McNeill.

The Korean and U.S. soldiers received

See **CLINIC**, Page 4

527th assumes engineer mission from 769th



Photo by Pfc. Christina Carde

Soldiers from the 769th and 527th Engineer Battalions, march forward with their colors to begin the changing of the guidons in their transfer of authority ceremony, Wednesday.

Pfc. Christina Carde
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan – The 769th Engineer Battalion, Baton Rouge, La., said their final farewells to Bagram and turned over the engineer mission here to the 527th Engineer Bn., Ruston, La., in a transfer of authority ceremony, Wednesday.

For the eight months the 769th has been deployed to Afghanistan they contributed considerably to the improvement and development of the air base, force protection and the troops' quality of life.

"When I arrived here last year, I made a promise to Col. Pritchett that the 769th would change the face of Bagram," said Maj. Robert Kyger, executive officer, 769th. "I feel we have accomplished that goal."

Lt. Col. James Boutte, commander, 769th, believes they exceeded everyone's hopes and expectations of what they would accomplish.

"In the time we were here, we erected HESCO walls, built roads, laid thousands of feet of concertina wire, constructed tents for forward operating bases all over Afghanistan and supplied Bagram with enough electricity to light a small city," said

See **TOA**, Page 4

World News (Compiled from CNN.com)



Gas masks are displayed on the window of an electronics store in the southeastern town of Cizre, near the Turkish-Iraqi border.

Lawmakers blast NATO trio for Turkey standoff

BRUSSELS, Belgium — U.S. lawmakers Wednesday blasted three NATO members who refused to go along with a U.S.-backed proposal to protect Turkey, NATO's only Islamic partner, from Iraq.

The emergency talks — in their third day Wednesday — will resume Thursday, according to NATO diplomats.

France, Germany and Belgium have said the plan to send U.S. surveillance planes, Patriot missiles and chemical and biological detection teams to Turkey now would hurt efforts to win a peaceful solution to the Iraq crisis.

But that position didn't sway one lawmaker, who said the three were not living up to the principle of the military alliance, which holds that an attack against one member is an attack against all of them.

"The failure of these states to honor their commitments is beneath contempt," said Rep. Tom Lantos, D-California.

He also recalled how the U.S. military protected the three countries during the Cold War.

"Had it not been for our military commitment, France, Germany and Belgium today would be Soviet Socialist Republics," he said while the House International Relations Committee heard testimony from Secretary of State Colin Powell.

The committee's chairman, Rep. Henry Hyde, R-Illinois, was also disturbed that the three countries were balking at coming to the aid of Turkey.

"America has fought distant wars to defend whole continents from a succession of aggressors, but the beneficiaries of the safety we have ensured often devote their energies to impeding our efforts to help others," Hyde said.

Tenet: N. Korea has ballistic missile capable of hitting U.S.

WASHINGTON — North Korea has an untested ballistic missile capable of hitting the United States, top U.S. intelligence officials said Wednesday.

While testifying at a Senate committee hearing in Washington, CIA Director George Tenet was asked whether North Korea had a ballistic missile capable of reaching the U.S. West Coast.

Before answering, Tenet turned to very quickly consult with aides sitting behind him.

"I think the declassified answer, is yes, they can do that," Tenet said.

Defense Intelligence Agency Director Vice Adm. Lowell Jacoby, also testifying at the hearing, said outside the hearing room that the North Korean missile has not yet been flight tested, according to The Associated Press.

Moments earlier Tenet said it was likely that North Korea had been able to produce as many as two plutonium-based nuclear weapons.

The estimate is not new — it was laid out in an unclassified CIA document in December 2001 — but Tenet is the most senior U.S. official to say so publicly.

NASA engineer's e-mail warned of possible disaster

JOHNSON SPACE CENTER, Texas —

An e-mail passed between NASA engineers two days before the fatal breakup of the space shuttle Columbia discussed worst-case scenarios involving tiles on the orbiter's underbelly that may have been damaged shortly after liftoff, specifically dealing with failures in the wheel well.

Robert Daugherty, an engineer, outlined several scenarios in his e-mail to David Lechner, who worked with the shuttle's mechanical systems. They were based on possible outcomes of tile damage the orbiter may have suffered only 80 seconds after it lifted off from Kennedy Space Center Jan. 16.

When they analyzed video of the liftoff a day later, NASA officials noticed what they believe was a piece of foam breaking off the external tank and glancing off the underside of the shuttle's left wing.

"I am admittedly erring way on the side of absolute worst-case scenarios and I don't really believe things are as bad as I'm getting ready to make them out," Daugherty wrote in his Jan. 30 email. "But I certainly believe that to not be ready for a gut-wrenching decision after seeing instrumentation in the wheel well not be there after entry is irresponsible."

As the shuttle streaked across the sky Feb. 1 toward its landing site in Florida, controllers at Johnson Space Center in Houston remarked that sensors inside the wheel well showed higher temperature readings. Other sensors were shutting down, one by one.

Bagram prayer breakfast

The Task Force-44 Medical chaplaincy is hosting a prayer breakfast Monday at the North Dining Facility from 0130-0230Z.

The speaker for the event Brig. Gen. Benjamin Mixon and Chap. (Col.) Richard Rogers, Combined Joint Task Force-180 chaplain, will offer the pastoral prayer. Special music will be provided by the Gospel Congregation Choir.

Col. Alan Beitler, commander, 48th Combat Support Hospital, the Jewish Lay Leader for Bagram, will read from the Old Testament. Republic of Korea Col. Kookhan Kim, ROK hospital commander, will do a reading from the New Testament.

Critter of the Week: Sandfly



An adult sandfly.

By Capt. Cory Campora
791st Preventive Medicine Detachment

Sandflies are tiny brownish, long legged, and somewhat hairy flies with narrow bodies and narrow pointed wings. They are sometimes called "Phlebotomine" flies, because they form the subfamily Phlebotominae. Like mosquitoes, the female takes a blood meal to help develop her eggs. They are poor flyers and usually travel low to the ground in short hops, generally remaining in the vicinity of their breeding area. Unlike mosquitoes, sandflies do not require water to breed. Instead they lay their eggs in dark areas where organic material is present, thus, unsanitary living conditions where much rubbish and human waste are present help them to proliferate. Usually sandflies bite only at night (usually from May to October in Afghanistan), but they may bite during the day if disturbed. While sandfly bites itch and are a nuisance, of greater concern is the potential of disease transmission from a bite. Some sandflies may carry and transmit parasites which cause Leishmaniasis, a serious disease that can cause disfiguring sores. Women and children suffer the worst from Leishmaniasis, and it is so common in some areas of Afghanistan that it is known as "Little Sister" because it is almost part of the family.

Bagram Air Base MWR presents

1530Z at the MWR building: "A River Runs Through It." Based on the novel by Normal Maclean, *A River Runs Through It* is a true story about two boys Norman and Paul growing up in Montana. One is rebellious of his father, Rev. Maclean, while the other has his feet on the ground. The one love they both have is Fly Fishing.

Tomorrow's movie will be "The Dish."



Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER FORECAST:

	Today	Friday
Bagram:	Mostly sunny H: 50F L: 28F	Scattered showers H: 39F L: 27F
Kandahar:	Partly cloudy H: 70F L: 42F	Scattered showers H: 64F L: 36F
Kabul:	Haze H: 46F L: 24F	Haze H: 48F L: 28F
Manas:	Snow H: 37F L: 28F	Fog H: 39F L: 27F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

Freedom Watch falls under the supervision of the Combined Joint Task Force - 180, and is published daily, Monday - Saturday.

CJTF-180 Commander —
Lt. Gen. Dan McNeill
CJTF-180 Command Sergeant Major —
Command Sgt. Maj. Steven R. England
Public Affairs Officer —
Col. Roger King
Public Affairs Sergeant Major —
Master Sgt. Kelly Tyler
Freedom Watch, an Army newspaper



publication, is produced by the 11th Public Affairs Detachment at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan.

Commander — Maj. William Mott
NCOIC — Staff Sgt. Christina Bhatti
Editor — Sgt. W. Cullen James
Journalists — Pfc. Christina Carde,
Pfc. Debralee P. Crankshaw

In accordance with AR 360-1, this Army newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military overseas.

Contents of *Freedom Watch* are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army.

All submissions are subject to editing for size and content by the 11th Public Affairs Detachment, located in Motel 6, CJTF-180, Bagram Air Base.

Visit the CENTCOM Web site at www.centcom.mil and click on the CJTF-180 link to get the latest editions of the *Freedom Watch*.

To be added to the daily distribution list email william.james@us.army.mil

CLINIC, from Page 1

these certificates, gifts and coins for supervising the reconstruction of the new Korean clinic.

The clinic provides the local nationals with primary care and preventive medicine.

The new building is more spacious, can accommodate more doctors and nurses so the locals receive better service and improves the security of the staff, according to Kim.

"Before we moved here, the conditions were nasty and we worked in a small room," said Kim.

There is another Korean clinic in Kabul for the Afghani military trainees, and one in Manas, Kyrgyzstan, treating Coalition forces. The Bagram clinic is the only clinic that provides solely for locals.

Injuries beyond the capabilities of the clinic are sent to the U.S. hospital. If they cannot take them, the locals are recommended the Kabul military hospital operated



Photos by Pfc. Debralee P. Crankshaw
Col. Kookhan Kim, Republic of Korea hospital commander, and Lt. Gen. Dan McNeill, Combined Joint Task Force-180 commander, discuss what the ceremony will entail.

by the Afghan government.

At its previous location, the clinic treated over 10,000 local nationals in the last four months, according to Kim.

"In the future, we want treatment to continue for these people," said Kim. "The Afghan people are very happy with us, they



Kim and McNeill cut the ribbon to open the new Korean clinic.

are happy with the medical team, they are satisfied with the medical services."

TOA, from Page 1

Boutte.

In addition to helping improve the quality of life on Bagram, the 769th's work also benefited the people of Afghanistan.

"One of the first projects we began upon arrival was the mine clearing," said Kyger. "Our perimeter was limited to within 10 feet of our tents in some cases. The fields had to be cleared before we could begin any construction."

"Not only did the mine clearing help increase force protection for the troops but also for the locals here after the U.S. presence is gone," said Boutte.

The 769th also participated in the Adopt-a-Village program.

"Around Christmas time the troops' morale was low so I got them involved in the Adopt-a-Village program to help boost their spirits," said Boutte. "We adopted the small village of



Photo by Pfc. Christina Carde
Command Sgt. Maj. Fred Cole, command sergeant major for the 527th Engineer Battalion, unravels their guidon to symbolize the 527th's assumption of the engineer mission in Afghanistan.

Turkman and brought them clothes, food and school supplies. Our last visit was just a few days ago."

Even with all of the improvements the 769th made on Bagram, encountered a few problems.

"Getting the right materials for construction and improvement was difficult," said Kyger. "The local contractors here work with different lumber, measure-

ments and voltages so we had to wait for our materials to come from outside sources."

The event that was the biggest blow to construction and morale, was an accident that took place about six weeks ago.

Staff Sgt. Michael Mcnaughton, mine clearing noncommissioned officer in charge, Headquarters Support Company, was in charge of a

mine clearing mission when he inadvertently stepped on a mine.

"He lost his leg right above the knee and lost two fingers on his right hand," said Kyger. "Even though it's little consolation, he was awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart and was visited by President and Mrs. Bush."

Aside from the hardships and tragedy, the 769th completed their mission and are now ready to return home.

The commander and command sergeant major of the 769th placed the cover on their guidon as the 527th removed theirs symbolizing the take over.

"The 527th is dedicated to giving 110 percent to our mission here in Afghanistan," said Lt. Col. David Aycok, 527th battalion commander. "We have a loyal and motivated group of soldiers and I know we will have no problem picking up where our sister battalion left off."



Coalition Sports Zone

National Hockey League (Compiled from ESPN.com)

New arrival scores empty-net goal

SUNRISE, Fla. — Sandy McCarthy scored his second goal of the season late in the second period Wednesday night and Mike Dunham made 27 saves as the New York Rangers snapped a seven-game winless streak with a 3-1 victory at Florida.

Alexei Kovalev, acquired from Pittsburgh in an eight-player trade Monday, scored an empty-net goal with 10.8 seconds left. He also had a couple of good scoring chances in the first period.

Defenseman Tom Poti also scored for the Rangers, who gave Glen Sather his first victory since he took over as coach Jan. 30, when he fired Bryan Trottier. The Rangers had been 0-2-1-1 under Sather.

Olli Jokinen had the lone Florida goal.

Roberto Luongo made 23 saves for Florida.

Florida missed a great chance to tie it in the third period when Valeri Bure picked up a loose puck to the right of Dunham and had the top of the net open. But Bure couldn't lift the puck over a sprawling Dunham, who made the pad save.

Dunham, who improved to 12-20-4, didn't dress for the previous two games because of a groin injury.

McCarthy's winner, his first goal since Nov. 29, came late in the second period after he stole the puck from defenseman Pavel Trnka and sent a wrist shot to Luongo's right.

The Rangers dominated play in the first period, but had to settle for a 1-1 tie after the teams traded power-play goals. Poti gave the Rangers the lead when his cross-ice pass from the right side went off the skate of Jokinen and beat Luongo to the short side. It marked the Rangers sixth consecutive game with at least one power-play goal.

Jokinen tied the score in the final minute of the period when he grabbed a loose puck to the left of Dunham and shot it over Dunham's right shoulder.

Jackets deal Sharks fourth loss

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Marc Denis stopped 38 shots and Rick Nash provided the only goal as the Columbus Blue Jackets beat the San Jose Sharks 1-0 on Wednesday night.

It was the first time the Blue Jackets had ever won a 1-0 game.

The shutout was Denis' third of the year and seventh of his career. He faced 19 shots in the first two periods and 19 in the third as the Sharks turned up the pressure.

Denis came into the game 0-4-0 against the Sharks with a 5.11 goals-against average.

San Jose, which lost its fourth in a row, had beaten the

Blue Jackets in their last four meetings. Columbus tied a franchise record as it stretched its home points streak to six (4-0-2).

Nash, a top contender for rookie of the year, picked up his 12th goal — and first game-winner — at 7:13 of the first period. Nash ended up with the puck near the blue line at the right boards and skated in on San Jose goaltender Mikka Kiprusoff. Nash fired a shot from the right circle that appeared to handcuff Kiprusoff, skipping off the goalie and bouncing lazily behind him into the net.

Nash was playing his first game on the Blue Jackets' No. 1 line. He was moved up from the third line and replaced Geoff Sanderson, who was dropped to the third unit.

Ottawa 3, Pittsburgh 0

PITTSBURGH — Toni Dahlman scored his first NHL goal and Patrick Lalime stopped 20 shots for his sixth shutout of the season Wednesday night as the Ottawa Senators beat the Pittsburgh Penguins 3-0.

Marian Hossa, the NHL's second-leading goal scorer, and Chris Neil also scored for the Senators, who moved within one point of Dallas for the league's overall points lead.

The game was the Penguins' first since the eight-player trade sending Alexei Kovalev to the New York Rangers on Monday. Three

See **SPORTS**, Page 6



2002 National Hockey League standings

Eastern Conference

Atlantic

(2) New Jersey	55 pts
(4) Philadelphia	55 pts
(7) N.Y. Islanders	55 pts
N.Y. Rangers	59 pts
Pittsburgh	56 pts

Northeast

(1) Ottawa	57 pts
(5) Toronto	57 pts
(6) Boston	55 pts
(8) Montreal	58 pts
Buffalo	54 pts

Southeast

(3) Washington	58 pts
Tampa Bay	56 pts
Florida	56 pts
Carolina	57 pts
Atlanta	55 pts

Western Conference

Central

(3) St. Louis	57 pts
(4) Detroit	56 pts
Chicago	57 pts
Columbus	55 pts
Nashville	55 pts

Northwest

(2) Vancouver	56 pts
(5) Colorado	55 pts
(6) Minnesota	56 pts
(7) Edmonton	56 pts
Calgary	56 pts

Pacific

(1) Dallas	57 pts
(8) Anaheim	55 pts
Los Angeles	56 pts
San Jose	56 pts
Phoenix	54 pts

SPORTS, from Page 5

players acquired in that trade, forwards Rico Fata and Mikael Samuelsson and defenseman Joel Bouchard, were in the Pittsburgh lineup, along with defenseman Shawn Heins, acquired from San Jose one day earlier.

The trade has been highly unpopular with fans, although the Mellon Arena crowd of 14,197 was the largest in three home games for the Penguins, who have lost six of their last seven at home.

Facing his former team, Lalime was rarely tested while playing for the first time since sitting out two games with the flu. Only Toronto's Ed Belfour (seven) has more shutouts this season.

Dahlman, a 2001 draft choice playing in his 16th NHL game, beat goaltender Johan Hedberg with a wrist shot from the edge of the left circle after taking a pass from Mike Fisher late in the second period. Dahlman was recalled from Binghamton of the AHL on Monday.

Hossa made it 2-0 just 40 seconds into the third period. He skated behind the net, fought off Bouchard and slid a shot past Hedberg for his 35th goal.

Neil converted Bouchard's turnover into his fifth goal of the season when he fired a wrist shot over Hedberg's glove from between the circles.

Weight expected to miss a game

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Doug Weight, the St. Louis Blues' top playmaker, is expected to miss at least one game after being struck in



Weight

the face by a puck against the Sabres on Tuesday night.

Weight required stitches to close a cut above his upper lip and also appeared woozy as he was helped off the ice with 8:12 left in the second period. He did not return to the game won by the Blues 3-2.

St. Louis coach Joel Quenneville considered it questionable whether Weight will be able to play when the Blues face Philadelphia at home on Thursday.

"He's not feeling too good right now," Quenneville said. "He was cut up pretty bad."

Weight, who left the dressing room without speaking to reporters, was hurt when he leaped in an attempt to block goaltender Martin Biron's clearing shot.

Weight leads the Blues with 45 assists and his 57 points are second to Pavol Demitra for the team lead. Weight was playing only his second game after missing two because of an ankle injury sustained in last week's NHL All-Star Game.

Weight failed to record a point before he was hurt, snapping his nine-game streak in which he had a goal and 12 assists.

Black History Month

February is Black History Month. In light of all the accomplishments made by African-Americans, every day this month the *Freedom Watch* will highlight an individual.

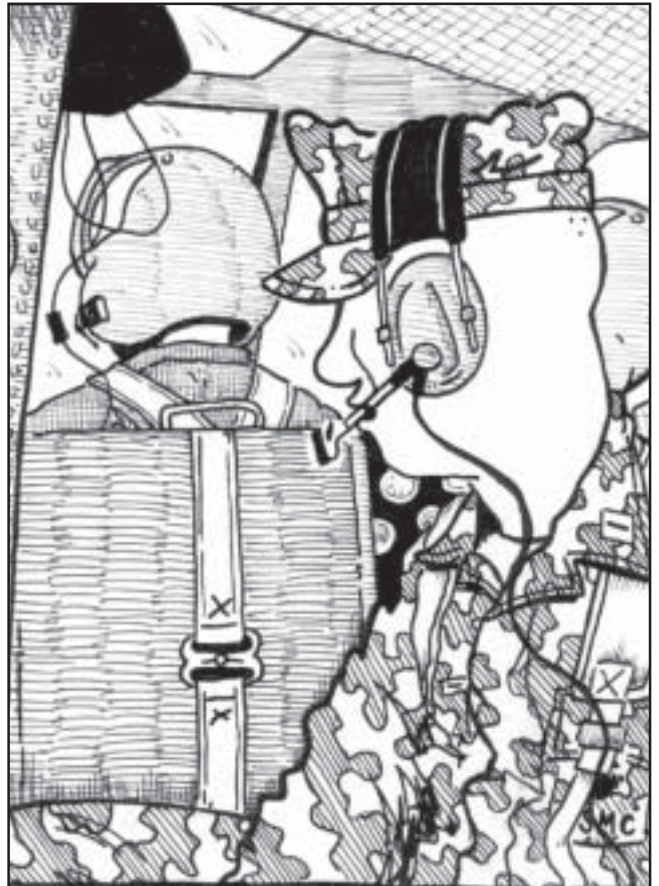
Percy Lavon Julian, chemist

Born: 4/11/1899 **Birthplace:** Montgomery, Ala.

In addition to an extensive teaching career at such colleges as DePauw University, which would not offer him a professorship because he was African American, Howard University and West Virginia State College, Percy Lavon Julian made significant discoveries in the private sector. In 1935 Julian developed physostigmine, a drug that is used in the treatment of glaucoma. While working for the Glidden Company, Julian worked with the soya bean, developing a protein that helped to develop AeroFoam a fire extinguisher used by the Navy. After leaving Glidden, Julian, who held a bachelor's degree from DePauw, a Master's degree from Harvard University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Vienna, founded Julian Research, focusing on the production of sterols. He synthesized the female hormone progesterone, and the male hormone testosterone by extracting sterols from soybean oil. His most famous exploit however, is his synthesis of cortisone which is used to treat arthritis and other inflammatory diseases.

Died: 4/19/75

"Take us around one more time, I'm trying to max out my frequent-flier miles."



kevin_kilgore@hotmail.com

By Kevin Kilgore

Laugh Support